

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UR, TPHY

SUBJECT: OCEANOGRAPHY AGREEMENT: SECOND JOINT COMMITTEE
MEETING

REF: MOSCOW 5618

FOR SCIENCE COUNSELOR

1. PARA 3 REFTEL SOMEWHAT BAFFLING, AS POINT OF OUR EFFORT
WAS TO REACH AGREEMENT. AS YOU ARE AWARE, QUESTION RE POST-
MEETING TOUR WAS POSED IN STATE 37618, PARA 4. UNSATISFAC-
TORY REPLY WAS METALNIKOV LETTER CITED BY EMBASSY IN
MOSCOW 3273. STATE 77299 RAISED NUMBER OF US DELEGATION TO
FIFTEEN PERSONS. STATE 91047 PUT SOVIETS ON NOTICE THAT
US DELGATION HAD GROWN TO MORE THAN TWENTY PERSONS COUNTING
ACCOMPANYING WIVES, VINOGRADOV'S REPLY CONTAINED REFTEL
DOES NOT CLEARLY RESPOND TO ANY OF THE SEVERAL ATTEMPTS
LISTED ABOVE TO REACH AGREE ENT ON NUMBERS AND TIMING AND
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ARRANGEMENTS WITHIN CAPACITY OF SOVIETS TO ACCOMMODATE DEL-

GATION FOR POST-MEETING TOUR.

2. "EXISTING ARRANGEMENTS" PER PARA THREE REFTEL ARE AT THIS STAGE NO MORE THAN VAGUE METALNIKOV RESPONSE BY LETTER TO STATE 37618. FYI AT MEETING OF US SIDE HERE APRIL 17

IT BECAME CLEAR THAT SEVERAL MEMBERS COULD JUST MAKE POST-MEETING TOUR IF TOUR CONCLUDED NOT LATER THAN JUNE 4. GIVEN SOVIET INSISTENCE ON JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING LASTING LONGER THAN TWO DAYS, WHICH DEPT RECOGNIZES HAS SOME MERIT, TIME REMAINING FOR SEVERAL MEMBERS TO MAKE ANY POST-MEETING TRAVEL AND STILL MEET PREVIOUS COMMITMENTS FOR OTHER TRAVEL FOLLOWING VISIT TO SOVIET UNION, WOULD BE MATTER OF ONLY FOUR OR FIVE DAYS, ROUGHLY MAY 31 TO JUNE 4. UNFORTUNATELY IT WOULD BE MEMBERS OF US SIDE THEMSELVES, RATHER THAN ACCOMPANYING STAFF AND DEPENDENTS, WHO WOULD TEND TO DROP OUT OF POST-MEETING TOUR, RAISING SERIOUS QUESTION WHETHER TOUR WORTH THE EFFORT.

3. DEPT IS SERIOUSLY CONCERNED THAT WE BE ABLE TO GIVE DR. WHITE AND HIS COLLEAGUES ON JOINT COMMITTEE, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, CLEAR ADVICE AS TO WHETHER PRODUCTIVE MEETING AND HIGHLY DESIRABLE POST-MEETING TOUR, COMPARABLE TO THAT EXTENDED TO SOVIET SIDE FOLLOWING FIRST JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING, IS NOW FEASIBLE. YOUR CANDID ADVICE WOULD BE APPRECIATED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT DEFERMENT OF MEETING, SHOULD THAT BE ADVISABLE, WOULD PROBABLY HAVE TO BE UNTIL SEPTEMBER OR OCTOBER 1975. WE RECOGNIZE PROBLEMS OCCASIONED BY PROTRACTED ABSENCE OF METALNIKOV AT GENEVA, TEMPORARY ABSENCE OF SIROYEGINA ON TRIP TO US, AND APPARENT TRAVEL OF VINOGRADOV. HOWEVER, US SIDE MUST DECIDE BEFORE END OF WEEK TO GO FORWARD WITH ARRANGEMENTS WHICH ARE STILL NOT CLEARLY AGREED DESPITE REPEATED EXCHANGES OF MESSAGES OVER LAST TWO MONTHS. APPRECIATE YOUR BEST EFFORTS TO CLARIFY SCHEDULE OF MEETING AND POST-CONFERENCE TOUR, AND SIZE OF DELEGATION SOVIETS CAN ACCOMMODATE FOR LATTER, E.G., CAPACITY OF AIRCRAFT AND HOTEL SPACE AVAILABLE; BY COB APRIL 23 IF POSSIBLE.

4. MARTINEAU AVAILABLE FOR TELEPHONE CALL APRIL 23 EIGHT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TO NINE A.M. FOR FURTHER CLARIFICATION IF REQUIRED. KISSINGER

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